REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. The present application contains claims 1-10. Claims 8-10 are newly added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges Examiner's allowance of claims 4-7 and indication that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Newly added independent claim 8 recites features and limitations similar to that recited in claim 3, which was objected to. Allowance of new claim 8 is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1-2 were rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fling, et al., U.S. 4,602,276. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 recites

> A video signal processing apparatus, comprising:
> an amplifier having an input for receiving a chroma input signal, an output for providing a chroma output signal;
> a control circuit coupled to the amplifier for controlling the amplitude of a burst component of the output signal characterized in that
> the control circuit reduces the amplitude of the output signal in a controlled manner when the value of the burst component is below a predetermined value.

The examiner asserts on pages 2-3 of the present office action that the limitation of "an amplifier having an input for receiving a chroma input signal, an output for providing a chroma output signal" is met by *saturation multiplier (34)* of Fling et al. and that the limitation of "a control

circuit coupled to the amplifier for controlling the amplitude of a burst component of the output signal characterized in that" is met by

> *"ACC color kill circuit 28 along with chroma overload detector (36) and control unit 38, where ACC color kill circuit 28 adjusts the amplitude of the color burst constant (col 3, line 5-14), and where chroma overload detector (36) generates an average value of the chrominance signal and control unit 38 readjusts the saturation scale factor applied to multiplier 34 to hold the average image color saturation to users setting (col 3, line 34-42).*

The examiner further asserts that the limitation of "the control circuit reduces the amplitude of the output signal in a controlled manner when the value of the burst component is below a predetermined value" is met

> *where if the amplitude of the chrominance signal falls below a predetermined acceptable level, circuit 28 outputs a zero valued chrominance signal, which is received by multiplier 34, which is used by chroma overload detector (36) and control unit 38 to adjust the amplitude of the chrominance signal.*

In response, Applicant directs examiner's attention to col. 3, lines 7-14 of Fling et al. which recite:

> *Bandpass filtered chrominance signal is applied to the ACC-COLOR KILLER circuit 28 which adjusts the amplitude of the chrominance signal to maintain the amplitude of color burst constant. Alternatively, if the amplitude of the chrominance signal falls below a predetermined acceptable level, circuit 28 outputs a zero valued chrominance signal* (as input to saturation multiplier 34).

Thus, Fling et al. discloses a conventional ACC COLOR KILL circuit 28 which operates to output either: a) a chrominance signal having a constant color burst (in normal mode); or b) a zero value chrominance signal (in monochrome mode (i.e. COLOR KILL mode). The chrominance signal

output from circuit 28 (in normal mode) is then applied to the multiplier 34, which scales/adjusts the chrominance signal to reduce overload/saturation conditions using COD 36 and control unit 38 feedback circuitry, and outputs the samples to a color demodulator circuit. However, when the input signal level falls below a predetermined acceptable level for COLOR KILL CIRCUIT 28, the circuit detects this condition and outputs a zero valued chrominance signal. This occurs when the signal level is so low that the system is instructed to enter the monochrome mode of operation, and is inherent in the operation of a Color Kill Circuit. This mode of operation causes multiplier 34 to thus receive a zero value at its input, and hence, simply output zero values. The feedback circuitry associated with COD 36 and control unit 38 has no effect with regard to the output of the multiplier in this mode, since the feedback simply scales or adjusts the signal input from circuit 28. In COLOR KILL mode, the value input to the multiplier is zero, and hence its output is also zero.

There is no amplitude or gain reduction performed by the saturation multiplier in Fling et al., but simply a zeroing of the chrominance signal when in COLOR KILL mode, and clearly, no control circuit that reduces the amplitude of the output signal in a controlled manner when the value of the burst component is below a predetermined value, as recited in present claim 1.

Accordingly, Fling et al fails to disclose, teach or suggest,

> a control circuit coupled to the amplifier for <u>controlling the amplitude of a burst component of the output signal</u> characterized in that
>
> the <u>control circuit reduces the amplitude</u> of the output signal <u>in a controlled manner</u> when the <u>value of the burst component is below a predetermined value</u>. (emphasis added)

Rather, Fling teaches that the output of multiplier 34 is simply zeroed when the Color Kill Circuit is activated in the Color Kill mode (i.e. when the chrominance signal burst component falls below a predetermined acceptable level). For at least these reasons, Fling et al. fails to teach each of the limitations recited in present claim 1. Withdrawal of this 35 USC 102(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

Newly added independent claim 9 also recites features and limitations not disclosed or suggested in the cited references of record. New claim 9 recites inter alia

> an amplifier having a first input for receiving a chroma input signal, a gain control input, and an output for providing a chroma output signal;
>
> a control circuit coupled to the gain control input of the amplifier for controlling the amplitude of a burst component of the output signal, wherein the control circuit detects when the value of the burst component is below a predetermined value and reduces the amplitude of the output signal in a controlled manner upon said detection. (emphasis added)

Support for this is found throughout the specification, including for example beginning on page 7, line 20 through page 9, line 2. New claim 10 depends from independent claim 9 and recites further features and limitations not disclosed or suggested in the cited references of record. Allowance of new claims 9-10 is requested.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the above-identified application, Applicants' undersigned Attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at **609-919-4428**.

Respectfully Submitted

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Edward J. Howard
Registration No. 42,670

THOMSON LICENSING, INC.
c/o DUANE MORRIS LLP
100 College Road West, Suite 100
Princeton, NJ 08540
Telephone: (609) 919-4428
Facsimile: (609) 919-4401
PTN\37713.1